

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 08058 041816Z

63

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 DRC-01 /125 W

----- 015415

R 041343Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1315

INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 8058

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SGEN, NI

SUBJECT: AMAKIRI GOES TO COURT

REF: LAGOS A-213

1. IN LATEST STEP TO SEEK REDRESS, JOURNALIST MINERE AMAKIRI FILED FALSE ARREST SUIT THIS WEEK IN HIGH COURT OF RIVERS STATE AGAINST GOVERNOR DIETE-SPIFF'S ADC, POLICE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT R. M. IWOWARI, WHO PERSONALLY SUPERVISED HIS DETENTION AND CHASTISEMENT. IN FIRST PART SUIT AMAKIRI CLAIMING NAIRA 50,000 (\$75,000) DAMAGES FROM IWOWARI; IN SECOND PART HE ASKING COURT TO DECLARE DETENTION ILLEGAL AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL. SPONSORS OF SUIT, NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS' ASSOCIATION, NIGERIAN GUILD OF EDITORS AND NIGERIAN UNION OF JOURNALISTS (REFAIRGRAM), HAVE ENGAGED ATTORNEY GANI FAWEHINMI--WHO EARLIER SUCCESSFULLY REPRESENTED PLAINTIFF IN DETENTION CASE INVOLVING BRIGADIER ADEKUNLE (LAGOS A-122).

2. COMMENT: SUINUTS INCREASED PRESSURE ON DIETE-SPIFF SINCE, IF IT ACTUALLY COMES TO COURT, MOST UNLIKELY ADC WILLING ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY TO TUNE NAIRA 50,000 AND SO WOULD PROBABLY ATTEMPT KICK CHARGE UPSTAIRS. GOOD POSSIBILITY  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 08058 041816Z

THUS EXISTS THAT ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL DEFENDANTS MIGHT

SEEK SOME TYPE OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT. COURT ACTIONS IN  
PREVIOUS PRESS DETENTION CASES HAVE APPARENTLY NEVER BEEN  
CARRIED THROUGH, BUT IN THIS INSTANCE QUESTIONABLE IF  
PLAINTIFFS ARE WILLING TO FOREGO PUBLIC TRIAL WHICH THEY  
FEEL CERTAIN THEY CAN WIN. FACT THEY ENGAGED ATTORNEY  
WHO HAS DEMONSTRATED ABILITY STAND UP TO HIGH LEVEL PRESSURE,  
PLUS REPORT THAT AMAKIRI HAS ALREADY TURNED DOWN ONE OBVIOUS  
BRIBE OFFER BY STATE GOVERNMENT OF JOB IN MINISTRY OF  
INFORMATION, SUPPORT VIEW THAT PRIVATE SETTLEMENT DOUBTFUL  
(AT LEAST WITHIN LIMITS DIETE-SPIFF LIKELY WILLING TO GO).  
PRECEDENT IN THE ADEKUNLE CASE (AND PROBABLY OTHERS)  
INDICATES THAT IF TRIAL COMPLETED, COURT WILL RULE IN  
FAVOR PLAINTIFFS--ALTHOUGH VERDICT MAY BE LONG TIME IN  
COMING.  
REINHARDT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973LAGOS08058  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LAGOS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731051/aaaablms.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** LAGOS A-213  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMAKIRI GOES TO COURT  
**TAGS:** PINS, SGEN, NI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005